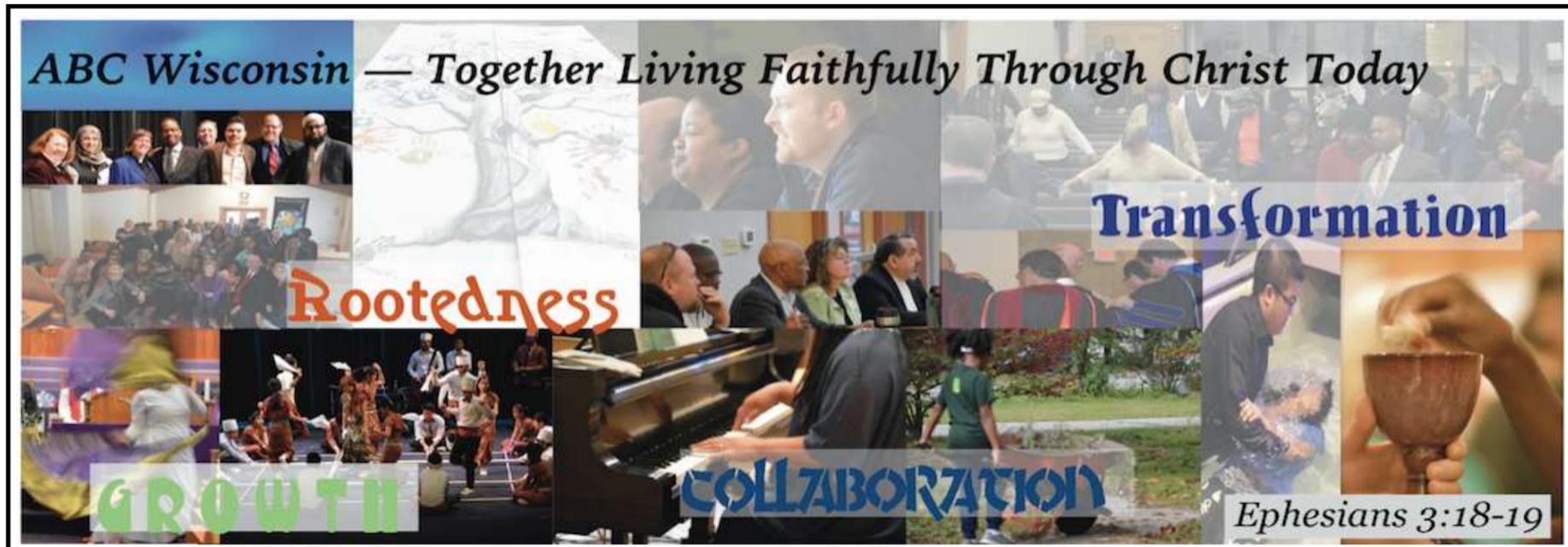


ABC OF WISCONSIN – REGION MINISTRIES

ELM GROVE, WI



“Together Living Faithfully Through Christ Today”

“And I ask him that with both feet planted firmly on love, you’ll be able to take in with all followers of Jesus the extravagant dimensions of Christ’s love. Reach out and experience the breadth! Test its length! Plumb the depths! Rise to the heights! Live full lives, full in the fullness of God.” Ephesians 3:18-19 The Message

Since 2000 several churches have been on an intentional journey to *transform* their missional purpose in the world, leading their faithful members beyond the walls of the church to *reach out* into the *breadths* of the neighborhoods and across the state, nation, and world. The *length* of Christ’s love has been tested as our American Baptists have *collaborated* and continued to stay in fellowship and develop sustaining relationships with each other and ministry partners across human differences of race, geography, historical formation, and theological experience. *Depths* have been reached through an emphasis on reconnecting with the *roots* of our faith identity and through the naming *root causes* of current day challenges. A commitment to education and development through our seminary site and commission work we are seeing people *rise to new heights* and *grow* effective ministries. By joining with the Holy Spirit’s powerful work among us our region is seeking to compel and equip one another to *live full and faithful lives* in Christ.

We have seen significant changes since 1995 in ABC/WI staff, including but not limited to the retirement of two Executive Ministers (EM)--George Daniels and Arlo Reichter—and the retirement in 2016 of five regional staff: Sam Brink, Mark & Deb Lembke, Timm & Maxine Ashley, impacting all areas of regional ministry. In 2014, Marie Onwubuariri was called as new EM and has since continued to develop a staff team equipped for dynamic mission & ministry.

Our current strategic imperatives of *rootedness, collaboration, growth, and transformation* will continue to guide us into the year 2020, at which time our four-year strategic plan will be fully evaluated, and a new discernment process will take place. Certainly, these elements of mission and faithful living are worthy to be continually considered, yet priorities may change from time to time. God’s guidance will be sought anew for a new decade to come. What is clear in sight, however, is that we, as a diverse region, must continue to witness to the unifying power of Christ.